

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS:

Claim 1 (currently amended): An expert diagnostic service method comprising the steps of:

collecting data related to ~~effective~~-fixes corresponding to various symptoms from a plurality of diagnostic systems via a data transmission network;

accessing a validation result of validated ~~effective~~-fixes corresponding to each of the various symptoms, wherein the validation result is generated by performing a validation process to screen out invalid fixes from the collected data;

~~based on the collected data, accumulating the number of each validated effective fix corresponding to each of the various symptoms; and~~

assigning at least one effective fix to one of the various symptoms based on ~~a result of the accumulating step~~ an accumulated number of each of the validated fixes corresponding to the one of the various symptoms.

Claim 2 (original): The method of claim 1 further rendering a result of the assigning step available to at least one of the plurality of diagnostic systems.

Claim 3 (cancelled)

Claim 4 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein the plurality of diagnostic systems are selected from the group consisting of an engine analyzer, an aligner, a balancer, and a battery tester.

Claim 5 (currently amended): An expert diagnostic service method comprising the steps of:

collecting data related to effective fixes corresponding to various symptoms from a plurality of [[a]] patient diagnostic systems via a data transmission network;

accumulating [[the]] a number of each effective fix corresponding to each of the various symptoms; and

assigning at least one effective fix to one of the various symptoms based on a result of the accumulating step.

Claim 6 (original): The method of claim 1, further generating data including the at least one effective fix assigned to the one of the various symptoms.

Claim 7 (original): The method of claim 6 further comprising the steps of:

receiving a request to access to the data including the at least one effective fix assigned to the one of the various symptoms from one of the plurality of diagnostic systems via the data transmission network;

transmitting the data including the at least one effective fix assigned to the one of the various symptoms to the one of the plurality of diagnostic systems via the data transmission network; and

receiving data related to effective fixes corresponding to various symptoms from the one of the plurality of diagnostic systems via the data transmission network.

Claim 8 (currently amended): An expert diagnostic method comprising the steps of:

collecting data related to ~~effective~~ diagnostic results corresponding to various faults from a plurality of diagnostic systems via a data transmission network;

accessing a validation result of validated ~~effective fixes~~ diagnostic results corresponding to each of the various symptoms, wherein the validation result is generated by performing a validation process to screen out invalid diagnostic results from the collected data;

~~based on the collected data, accumulating the number of each validated diagnostic result corresponding to each of the various faults; and~~

assigning at least one effective diagnostic result to one of the various ~~faults~~ symptoms based on ~~a result of the accumulating step~~ an accumulated number of each of the validated effective results corresponding to the one of the various symptoms.

Claim 9 (original): The method of claim 8, further rendering a result of the assigning step available to at least one of the plurality of diagnostic systems.

Claim 10 (cancelled)

Claim 11 (currently amended): The method of claim 8, wherein the data related to ~~effective~~ diagnostic results includes at least one of attributes related to an apparatus under diagnosis, a cause of a fault, a test for finding a cause of a fault, and a fix to cure a cause of a fault.

Claim 12 (original): The method of claim 8, wherein the diagnostic systems are configured to diagnose a vehicle or a patient.

Claim 13 (currently amended): The method of claim 8 further generating data including the at least one effective diagnostic result assigned to the one of the various ~~faults~~ symptoms.

Claim 14 (currently amended): The method of claim 13 further comprising the steps of:
receiving a request to access to the data including the at least one effective ~~[[fix]]~~
diagnostic result assigned to the one of the various symptoms from one of the plurality of diagnostic systems via the data transmission network;

transmitting the data including the at least one effective ~~[[fix]]~~ diagnostic result assigned to the one of the various symptoms to the one of the plurality of diagnostic systems via the data transmission network; and

receiving data related to ~~effective~~ diagnostic results corresponding to various ~~faults~~ symptoms from the one of the plurality of diagnostic systems via the data transmission network.

Claim 15 (currently amended): A data processing system for providing expert diagnostic services comprising:

- a data processor for processing data;
- a data communication port for connecting to a data transmission network;
- a data storage device for storing instructions; and
- a data transmission path coupled to the data processor, the data communication port, and the data storage device;

wherein the instructions, when executed by the data processor, control the data processing system to perform the machine-implemented steps of:

receiving data related to ~~effective~~ diagnostic results corresponding to various ~~faults~~ symptoms from a plurality of diagnostic systems via the data transmission network;

accessing a validation result of validated ~~effective fixes~~ diagnostic results corresponding to each of the various symptoms, wherein the validation result is generated by performing a validation process to screen out invalid diagnostic results from the collected data;

~~based on the received data, accumulating the number of each validated diagnostic result corresponding to each of the various faults that is valid according to the validation result; and~~

assigning at least one effective diagnostic result to one of the various ~~faults~~ symptoms based on ~~a result of the accumulating step~~ an accumulated number of each of the validated diagnostic results corresponding to the one of the various symptoms.

Claim 16 (original): The system of claim 15, wherein the storage device further stores instructions that, when executed by the data processor, control the data processing system to render a result of the assigning step available to at least one of the plurality of diagnostic systems.

Claim 17 (cancelled)

Claim 18 (currently amended): The system of claim 15, wherein the data related to ~~effective diagnostic results~~ includes at least one of attributes related to an apparatus under diagnosis, a cause of a fault, a test for finding a cause of a fault, and a fix to cure a cause of a fault.

Claim 19 (original): The system of claim 15, wherein the diagnostic systems are configured to diagnose a vehicle or a patient.

Claim 20 (currently amended): The system of claim 15, the storage device further stores instructions, when executed by the data processor, control the data processing system to generate data including the at least one effective diagnostic result assigned to the one of the various ~~faults~~symptoms.

Claim 21 (currently amended): The system of claim 20, wherein the storage device further stores instructions that, when executed by the data processor, control the data processing system to perform the machine-implemented steps of:

receiving a request to access to the data including the at least one effective ~~[[fix]]~~ diagnostic result assigned to the one of the various symptoms from one of the plurality of diagnostic systems via the data transmission network;

transmitting the data including the at least one effective ~~[[fix]]~~ diagnostic result assigned to the one of the various symptoms to the one of the plurality of diagnostic systems via the data transmission network; and

receiving data related to ~~effective~~ diagnostic results corresponding to various faults symptoms from the one of the plurality of diagnostic systems via the data transmission network.

Claim 22 (currently amended): A machine-readable medium bearing instructions for providing expert diagnostic services, the instructions upon execution by a data processing system causing the data processing system to perform the steps of:

receiving data related to ~~effective~~ diagnostic results corresponding to various faults from a plurality of diagnostic systems via the data transmission network;

accessing a validation result of validated ~~effective fixes~~ diagnostic results corresponding to each of the various symptoms, wherein the validation result is generated by performing a validation process to screen out invalid diagnostic results from the collected data;

~~based on the received data, accumulating the number of each validated diagnostic result corresponding to each of the various faults that is valid according to the validation result;~~ and

assigning at least one effective diagnostic result to one of the various faults symptoms ~~based on a result of the accumulating step~~ an accumulated number of each of the validated diagnostic results corresponding to the one of the various symptoms.

Claim 23 (previously presented): The medium of claim 22, further bearing instructions that, upon execution by a data processing system, cause the data processing system to render a result of the assigning step available to at least one of the plurality of diagnostic systems.

Claim 24 (cancelled)

Claim 25 (currently amended): The medium of claim 22, wherein the data related to ~~effective~~ diagnostic results includes at least one of attributes related to an apparatus under diagnosis, a cause of a fault, a test for finding a cause of a fault, and a fix to cure a cause of a fault.

Claim 26 (original): The medium of claim 22, wherein the diagnostic systems are configured to diagnose a vehicle or a patient.

Claim 27 (currently amended): The medium of claim 22 further bearing instructions upon execution by a data processing system causing the data processing system to generate data including the at least one effective diagnostic result assigned to the one of the various ~~fault~~symptoms.

Claim 28 (currently amended): The medium of claim 27 further bearing instructions that, upon execution by a data processing system, cause the data processing system to perform the machine-implemented steps of:

receiving a request to access to the data including the at least one effective ~~[[fix]]~~ diagnostic result assigned to the one of the various symptoms from one of the plurality of diagnostic systems via the data transmission network;

transmitting the data including the at least one effective ~~[[fix]]~~ diagnostic result assigned to the one of the various symptoms to the one of the plurality of diagnostic systems via the data transmission network; and

receiving data related to effective diagnostic results corresponding to various ~~faults~~ symptoms from the one of the plurality of diagnostic systems via the data transmission network.

Claim 29 (currently amended): The method of claim 1, wherein the data related to ~~effective diagnostic~~ fixes results includes at least one of attributes related to an apparatus under diagnosis, a cause of a fault, a test for finding a cause of a fault, and a fix to cure a cause of a fault.

Claims 30-37 (cancelled)

Claim 38 (currently amended): An expert diagnostic service method comprising the steps of:

collecting data related to ~~effective~~-fixes corresponding to various symptoms from a plurality of diagnostic systems via a data transmission network;

accessing a validation result of validated ~~effective~~-fixes corresponding to each of the various symptoms, wherein the validation result is generated by performing a validation process to screen out invalid fixes from the collected data;

~~based on the collected data, accumulating the number of each validated diagnostic result corresponding to each of the various faults that is valid according to the validation result;~~

generating an index for each of the validated fixes ~~effective fix~~ corresponding to each of the various symptoms based on ~~a result of the accumulating step~~ an accumulated number of each of the validated fixes corresponding to each of the various symptoms; and

assigning at least one effective fix to one of the various symptoms based on the index for each of the validated fixes ~~effective fix~~ corresponding to ~~[[each]]~~ the one of the various symptoms.

Claim 39 (new): An expert diagnostic service method comprising the steps of:
collecting data related to diagnostic results corresponding to various symptoms from a plurality of patient diagnostic systems via a data transmission network;
accumulating a number of each diagnostic result corresponding to each of the various symptoms; and
assigning at least one effective diagnostic result to one of the various symptoms based on a result of the accumulating step.

Claim 40 (new): A data processing system for providing expert diagnostic services comprising:
a data processor for processing data;
a data communication port for connecting to a data transmission network;
a data storage device for storing instructions; and
a data transmission path coupled to the data processor, the data communication port, and the data storage device;

wherein the instructions, when executed by the data processor, control the data processing system to perform the machine-implemented steps of:

collecting data related to diagnostic results corresponding to various symptoms from a plurality of patient diagnostic systems via a data transmission network;

accumulating a number of each diagnostic result corresponding to each of the various symptoms; and

assigning at least one effective diagnostic result to one of the various symptoms based on a result of the accumulating step.

Claim 41 (new): A machine-readable medium bearing instructions for providing expert diagnostic services, the instructions upon execution by a data processing system causing the data processing system to perform the steps of:

collecting data related to diagnostic results corresponding to various symptoms from a plurality of patient diagnostic systems via a data transmission network;

accumulating a number of each diagnostic result corresponding to each of the various symptoms; and

assigning at least one effective diagnostic result to one of the various symptoms based on a result of the accumulating step.